



Health impacts of climate change in vanuatu: An assessment and adaptation action plan

Author(s): Spickett JT, Katscherian D, McIver L
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Abstract:

Climate change is one of the greatest global challenges and Pacific island countries are particularly vulnerable due to, among other factors, their geography, demography and level of economic development. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) framework was used as a basis for the consideration of the potential health impacts of changes in the climate on the population of Vanuatu, to assess the risks and propose a range of potential adaptive responses appropriate for Vanuatu. The HIA process involved the participation of a broad range of stakeholders including expert sector representatives in the areas of bio-physical, socio-economic, infrastructure, environmental diseases and food, who provided informed comment and input into the understanding of the potential health impacts and development of adaptation strategies. The risk associated with each of these impacts was assessed with the application of a qualitative process that considered both the consequences and the likelihood of each of the potential health impacts occurring. Potential adaptation strategies and actions were developed which could be used to mitigate the identified health impacts and provide responses which could be used by the various sectors in Vanuatu to contribute to future decision making processes associated with the health impacts of climate change.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/gjhs.v5n3p42>

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Food/Water Quality: Other Water Quality Issue

Water Quality (other): Ocean Acidification

Food/Water Security: Nutritional Quality

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Ocean/Coastal

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Dermatological Effect, Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Respiratory Effect, Other Health Impact

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Other Mental Disorder

Other Health Impact: Eye Diseases

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content